

S/N To be assigned

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	NIEMINEN et al	Serial No.:	To be assigned
Filed:	11/13/01	Docket No.:	602.356USW1
Title:	INTEGRATED DIRECT CURRENT CONVERTER		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EL 887040930 US

Date of Deposit: 13 November 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: 

Name: Kari Arnold

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment into the above-referenced application.

ABSTRACT

Please insert the attached abstract into the application as the last page thereof.

CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-28 as follows. A clean copy of the amended and new claims is included below. A marked up copy of the entire claim set is included in Appendix A.

1. (Amended) Method for forming a chopper-type direct-current converter comprising:
a magnetic core, which comprises:
a first and a second side legs, the ends of the which are connected to each other with end pieces; and

a center leg provided with an air gap and connected to the end pieces between the first and the second side legs; around which magnetic core are arranged:
a primary winding;
a secondary winding; and
a secondary-side filter coil, wherein
the filter coil is disposed around the center leg; and
the primary and secondary windings are disposed around the side legs so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction with the magnetic flux of the filter coil.

2. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein four windings are provided on the primary side of the converter, two of the windings being connected in series around the first and the second side legs so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on each side leg.

3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1,
wherein two windings are provided on the secondary side of the converter,
connected around the first and the second side legs so that the direction of the magnetic flux produced by the windings is opposite to the magnetic flux of the primary winding placed on the same side leg.

4. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein
the primary windings are controlled by means of a first and a second switching element; and
two capacitors are provided on the primary side so that the first capacitor is connected in series between the switching elements and the second capacitor is connected in parallel with the supply voltage.

5. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 2, wherein two switching elements and two capacitors are provided on the primary side of the converter in such manner that:

the first switching element is connected in series between two primary windings and the second switching element correspondingly in series between the other two primary windings; and

the first capacitor is connected from the first side of the first switching element to the second side of the second switching element and the second capacitor is connected from the second side of the first switching element to the first side of the second switching element.

6. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein four windings are provided on the primary side of the converter by connecting two windings in series around the first and the second side legs so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings will flow in the same direction in both side legs and by connecting the other two windings so that the direction of the magnetic flux produced by them is opposite to the flux of the former winding on the same side leg.

7. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 6, wherein two switching elements and a capacitor are provided on the primary side in such manner that: the first switching element is connected by one end in series with two primary windings and by the other end to the second pole of the input voltage; the second switching element is connected correspondingly with the other two primary windings; and the capacitor is connected in parallel with the input voltage.

8. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein two switching elements, two capacitors and two windings are provided on the primary side in such manner that:

a half-bridge circuit consisting of the switching elements and capacitors] is formed;

and

the windings are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on each side leg and the windings are connected by one end between the switching elements and by the other end between the capacitors.

9. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein four switching elements, a capacitor and two windings are provided on the primary side in such manner that:

a full bridge is formed from the switching elements;

the capacitor is connected in parallel with the input voltage; and

the windings are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction on both side legs and the windings are connected by one end between two switching elements and by the other end between the other two switching elements.

10. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1,

wherein the first end of the filter coil winding is connected between the secondary windings on the first and the second side legs and the other end is connected to the first pole of the output voltage of the converter.

11. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1,

wherein a third and a fourth switching element are provided on the secondary side,

connected in series with the secondary winding, and the second pole of the output of the converter is disposed between the third and the fourth switches.

12. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 10, wherein a first and a second diode are provided on the secondary side, connected in series with the secondary winding, and the second pole of the output voltage of the converter is disposed between the first and second diodes.

13. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein at least two different voltage outputs are provided on the secondary side in such manner that, for each voltage output, two windings are provided around the first and the second side legs.

14. (Amended) Method for forming a chopper-type regulator comprising:
a magnetic core, which comprises:
a first and a second side leg, the ends of which are connected to each other with end pieces; and
a center leg provided with an air gap and connected to the end pieces between the first and second side legs; around which magnetic core are arranged:
two windings; and
a filter coil, wherein
the filter coil is disposed around the center leg; and
the windings are so arranged around the side legs that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction as the magnetic flux of the filter coil.

15. (Amended) Chopper-type direct-current converter comprising:
a magnetic core, which comprises:
a first and a second side leg, the ends of which are connected to each other with end pieces; and

a center leg provided with an air gap and connected to the end pieces between the first and second side legs; around which magnetic core are arranged:
a primary winding;
a secondary winding; and
a secondary side filter coil, wherein
the filter coil is wound around the center leg; and
the primary and secondary windings are wound around the side legs
so that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction as the magnetic flux of the filter coil.

16. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15,
wherein the primary side of the converter is provided with four windings, two windings being connected in series around the first and the second side legs so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on both side legs.

17. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15, wherein the secondary side of the converter is provided with two windings connected in series around the first and the second side legs so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in a direction opposite to the direction of the magnetic flux produced by the primary winding placed on the same side leg.

18. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15, wherein:
the primary side is provided with series-connected first and second switching elements, which are connected in parallel with the input voltage and which serve to control the primary windings; and
the primary side is provided with two capacitors, the first capacitor

being connected between the switching elements and the second capacitor in parallel with the input voltage.

19. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 16,

wherein the primary side of the converter is provided with two switching elements and two capacitors in such manner that:

the first switching element is connected in series between two primary windings and the second switching element correspondingly in series between the other two primary windings; and

the first capacitor is connected to the first side of the first switching element and to the second side of the second switching element and the second capacitor is connected to the second side of the first switching element and to the first side of the second switching element.

20. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15,

wherein the primary side of the converter is provided with four windings in such manner that:

two windings are connected in series around the first and second side legs;

the magnetic flux produced by windings flows in the same direction on both side legs; and

the other two windings are connected in a corresponding manner so that the windings produce a magnetic flux in a direction opposite to the former windings on the same side leg.

21. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 20,

wherein the primary side is provided with two switching elements and a capacitor in such manner that:

the first and second switching elements are connected by one end in series with two primary windings and by the other end to one pole of the input voltage; and the capacitor is connected in parallel with the input voltage.

22. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15, wherein the primary side is provided with two switching elements, two capacitors and two windings in such manner that: the switching elements and the capacitors are arranged in a half-bridge circuit; and the windings are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on both side legs and the windings are connected by one end between the switching elements and by the other end between the capacitors.

23. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15, wherein the primary side is provided with four switching elements, a capacitor and two windings in such manner that: the switching elements are arranged in a full bridge circuit; the capacitor is connected in parallel with the supply voltage; and the windings are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on both side legs and the windings are connected by one end between two switching elements and by the other end between the other two switching elements.

24. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15, wherein the first end of the filter coil is connected between the secondary windings on the first and second side legs and the second end is connected to the first pole of the output voltage of the converter.

25. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15, wherein the secondary side is provided with a third and a fourth switching element connected in series with the secondary winding and the second pole of the output voltage of the converter is disposed between the third and fourth switching elements.

26. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 24, wherein the secondary side is provided with a first and a second diode connected in series with the secondary winding and the second pole of the output voltage of the converter is disposed between the first and second diodes.

27. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15, wherein the secondary side is provided with at least two different voltage outputs in such manner that, for each voltage output, two windings are connected around the first and second side legs.

28. (Amended) Chopper-type regulator, comprising:
a magnetic core, which comprises:
a first and a second side leg, the ends of which are connected to each other with end pieces; and
a center leg provided with an air gap and connected to the end pieces between the first and second side legs; around which magnetic core are arranged:
two windings; and
a filter coil, wherein
the filter coil is disposed around the center leg; and
the windings are disposed around the side legs so that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction with the magnetic flux of the filter coil.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to insert an abstract page into the application and to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3, 4, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 24, 25 and 27 and to put the claims in U.S. format.

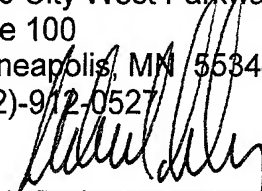
Applicant respectfully requests that this preliminary amendment be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's attorney of record, Michael B. Lasky at 952-912-0527.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC
6500 City West Parkway
Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55344-7701
(952)-912-0527

Date: 13 November 2001

By: 
Michael B. Lasky
Reg. No. 29,555
MBL/vlb

10070800 11301

Appendix A
Marked Up Version of Entire Claim Set

1. (Amended) Method for forming a chopper-type direct-current converter comprising:

a magnetic core [(M)], which comprises:

a first and a second side legs [(MS1, MS2)], the ends of the which are connected to each other with end pieces [(MP1, MP2)]; and

a center leg [(MK)] provided with an air gap [(G)] and connected to the end pieces [(MP1, MP2)] between the first and the second side legs [(MS1, MS2)];

around which magnetic core [(M)] are arranged:

a primary winding [(P; P1, P2, P3, P4)];

a secondary winding [(S; S1, S2)]; and

a secondary-side filter coil [(Sc)], [c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t] wherein the filter coil [(Sc)] is disposed around the center leg [(MK)]; and

the primary and secondary windings [(P, S)] are disposed around the side legs [(MS1, MS2)] so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction with the magnetic flux of the filter coil [(Sc)].

2. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t] wherein four windings [(P1, P2, P3, P4)] are provided on the primary side of the converter, two [(P1, P2; P3, P4)] of the windings being connected in series around the first and the second side legs [(MS1, MS2)] so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on each side leg.

3. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1 [or 2],
[c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t] wherein two windings [(S1, S2)] are provided on the secondary side of the converter, connected around the first and the second

side legs [(MS1, MS2)] so that the direction of the magnetic flux produced by the windings is opposite to the magnetic flux of the primary winding placed on the same side leg.

4. (Amended) Method as defined in [any one of claims 1 – 3] claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the primary windings [(P)] are controlled by means of a first and a second switching element [(A, B)]; and two capacitors are provided on the primary side so that the first capacitor [(C1)] is connected in series between the switching elements [(A, B)] and the second capacitor [(Ci)] is connected in parallel with the supply voltage [(Ui)].

5. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein two switching elements [(A, B)] and two capacitors [(C1, C2)] are provided on the primary side of the converter in such manner that: the first switching element [(A)] is connected in series between two primary windings [(P1, P2)] and the second switching element [(B)] correspondingly in series between the other two primary windings [(P3, P4)]; and the first capacitor [(C1)] is connected from the first side of the first switching element [(A)] to the second side of the second switching element [(B)] and the second capacitor [(C2)] is connected from the second side of the first switching element [(A)] to the first side of the second switching element [(B)].

6. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein four windings [(P1, P2, P3, P4)] are provided on the primary side of the converter by connecting two windings [(P1, P2)] in series around the first and the second side legs [(MS1, MS2)] so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings will flow in the same direction in both side legs and by connecting the other two

windings [(P3, P4)] so that the direction of the magnetic flux produced by them is opposite to the flux of the former winding on the same side leg.

7. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 6, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein two switching elements [(A, B)] and a capacitor [(Ci)] are provided on the primary side in such manner that:

the first switching element [(A)] is connected by one end in series with two primary windings [(P1, P2)] and by the other end to the second pole of the input voltage [(Ui)];

the second switching element [(B)] is connected correspondingly with the other two primary windings [(P3, P4)]; and

the capacitor [(Ci)] is connected in parallel with the input voltage [(Ui)].

8. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein two switching elements [(A, B)], two capacitors [(C1, C2)] and two windings [(P1, P2)] are provided on the primary side in such manner that:

a half-bridge circuit consisting of the switching elements [(A, B)] and capacitors [(C1, C2)] is formed; and

the windings [(P1, P2)] are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on each side leg [(MS1, MS2)] and the windings are connected by one end between the switching elements [(A, B)] and by the other end between the capacitors [(C1, C2)].

9. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein four switching elements [(A, B, C, D)], a capacitor [(Ci)] and two windings [(P1, P2)] are provided on the primary side in such manner that:

a full bridge is formed from the switching elements [(A, B, C, D)];

the capacitor [(Ci)] is connected in parallel with the input voltage [(Ui)]; and

the windings [(P1, P2)] are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction on both side legs and the windings are connected by one end between two switching elements [(A, B)] and by the other end between the other two switching elements [(C, D)].

10. (Amended) Method as defined in [any one of claims 1 – 9] claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the first end of the filter coil [(Sc)] winding is connected between the secondary windings [(MS1, MS2)] on the first and the second side legs [(MS1, MS2)] and the other end is connected to the first pole of the output voltage [(Uo)] of the converter.

11. (Amended) Method as defined in [any one of claims 1 – 10] claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein a third and a fourth switching element [(A', B')] are provided on the secondary side, connected in series with the secondary winding, and the second pole of the output voltage [(Uo)] of the converter is disposed between the third and the fourth switches [(A', B')].

12. (Amended) Method as defined in claim 10, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein a first and a second diode [(D1, D2)] are provided on the secondary side, connected in series with the secondary winding [(S1, S2)], and the second pole of the output voltage [(Uo)] of the converter is disposed between the first and second diodes [(D1, D2)].

13. (Amended) Method as defined in [any one of claims 1 – 12] claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein at least two different voltage outputs [(Uo1, Uo2)] are provided on the secondary side in such manner that, for each voltage output, two windings are provided around the first and the second side legs.

14. (Amended) Method for forming a chopper-type regulator comprising:
a magnetic core [(M)], which comprises:

a first and a second side leg [(MS1, MS2)], the ends of which are connected to each other with end pieces [(MP1, MP2)]; and
a center leg [(MK)] provided with an air gap [(G)] and connected to the end pieces [(MP1, MP2)] between the first and second side legs [(MS1, MS2)];
around which magnetic core [(M)] are arranged:
two windings [(S1, S2)]; and
a filter coil [(Sc)], [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein
the filter coil [(Sc)] is disposed around the center leg [(MK)]; and
the windings [(S1, S2)] are so arranged around the side legs [(MS1, MS2)] that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction as the magnetic flux of the filter coil [(Sc)].

15. (Amended) Chopper-type direct-current converter comprising:

a magnetic core (M), which comprises:
a first and a second side leg [(MS1, MS2)], the ends of which are connected to each other with end pieces [(MP1, MP2)]; and
a center leg [(MK)] provided with an air gap [(G)] and connected to the end pieces [(MP1, MP2)] between the first and second side legs [(MS1, MS2)];
around which magnetic core [(M)] are arranged:
a primary winding [(P; P1, P2, P3, P4)];
a secondary winding [(S; S1, S2)]; and
a secondary side filter coil [(Sc)], [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein
the filter coil [(Sc)] is wound around the center leg [(MK)]; and
the primary and secondary windings [(P, S)] are wound around the side legs [(P; P1, P2, P3, P4)] so that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction as the magnetic flux of the filter coil [(Sc)].

16. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15,

[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the primary side of the converter is provided with four windings [(P1, P2, P3, P4)], two windings [(P1, P2; P3, P4)] being connected in series around the first and the second side legs [(MS1, MS2)] so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on both side legs.

17. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15 [or 16],

[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the secondary side of the converter is provided with two windings [(S1, S2)] connected in series around the first and the second side legs [(MS1, MS2)] so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in a direction opposite to the direction of the magnetic flux produced by the primary winding placed on the same side leg.

18. (Amended) Converter as defined in [any one of claims 15 – 17] claim 15, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein:
the primary side is provided with series-connected first and second switching elements [(A, B)], which are connected in parallel with the input voltage [(Ui)] and which serve to control the primary windings [(P)]; and
the primary side is provided with two capacitors [(C1, Ci)], the first capacitor [(C1)] being connected between the switching elements [(A, B)] and the second capacitor [(Ci)] in parallel with the input voltage [(Ui)].

19. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 16,

[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the primary side of the converter is provided with two switching elements [(A, B)] and two capacitors [(C1, C2)] in such manner that:

the first switching element [(A)] is connected in series between two primary windings [(P1, P2)] and the second switching element [(B)] correspondingly in series between the other two primary windings [(P3, P4)]; and the first capacitor [(C1)] is connected to the first side of the first switching element [(A)] and to the second side of the second switching element [(B)] and the second capacitor [(C2)] is connected to the second side of the first switching element [(A)] and to the first side of the second switching element [(B)].

20. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15,

[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the primary side of the converter is provided with four windings [(P1, P2, P3, P4)] in such manner that: two windings [(P1, P2)] are connected in series around the first and second side legs [(MS1, MS2)]; the magnetic flux produced by windings [(P1, P2)] flows in the same direction on both side legs [(MS1, MS2)]; and the other two windings [(P3, P4)] are connected in a corresponding manner so that the windings produce a magnetic flux in a direction opposite to the former windings on the same side leg.

21. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 20,

[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the primary side is provided with two switching elements [(A, B)] and a capacitor [(Ci)] in such manner that: the first and second switching elements [(A, B)] are connected by one end in series with two primary windings [(P1, P2)] and by the other end to one pole of the input voltage [(Ui)]; and the capacitor [(Ci)] is connected in parallel with the input voltage [(Ui)].

22. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15,

[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the primary side is provided with two switching elements [(A, B)], two capacitors [(C1, C2)] and two windings [(P1, P2)] in such manner that:

the switching elements [(A, B)] and the capacitors [(C1, C2)] are arranged in a half-bridge circuit; and

the windings [(P1, P2)] are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on both side legs [(MS1, MS2)] and the windings are connected by one end between the switching elements [(A, B)] and by the other end between the capacitors [(C1, C2)].

23. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 15,

[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the primary side is provided with four switching elements [(A, B, C, D)], a capacitor [(Ci)] and two windings [(P1, P2)] in such manner that:

the switching elements [(A, B, C, D)] are arranged in a full bridge circuit;

the capacitor [(Ci)] is connected in parallel with the supply voltage [(Ui)]; and

the windings [(P1, P2)] are connected in series so that the magnetic flux produced by the windings flows in the same direction on both side legs [(MS1, MS2)] and the windings are connected by one end between two switching elements [(A, B)] and by the other end between the other two switching elements [(C, D)].

24. (Amended) Converter as defined in [any one of claims 15 – 23] claim 15, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the first end of the filter coil [(Sc)] is connected between the secondary windings on the first and second side legs [(MS1, MS2)] and the second end is connected to the first pole of the output voltage [(Uo)] of the converter.

25. (Amended) Converter as defined in [any one of claims 15 – 24]
claim 15, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the secondary side is
provided with a third and a fourth switching element [(A', B')] connected in series
with the secondary winding and the second pole of the output voltage [(Uo)] of the
converter is disposed between the third and fourth switching elements [(A', B')].

26. (Amended) Converter as defined in claim 24,
[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the secondary side is provided with a
first and a second diode [(D1, D2)] connected in series with the secondary winding
[(S1, S2)] and the second pole of the output voltage [(Uo)] of the converter is
disposed between the first and second diodes [(D1, D2)].

27. (Amended) Converter as defined in [any one of claims 15 – 26] claim
15, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the secondary side is provided
with at least two different voltage outputs [(Uo1, Uo2)] in such manner that, for
each voltage output, two windings are connected around the first and second side
legs.

28. (Amended) Chopper-type regulator, comprising:
a magnetic core [(M)], which comprises:
a first and a second side leg [(MS1, MS2)], the ends of which are connected to
each other with end pieces [(MP1, MP2)]; and
a center leg [(MK)] provided with an air gap [(G)] and connected to the end
pieces [(MP1, MP2)] between the first and second side legs [(MS1, MS2)];
around which magnetic core [(M)] are arranged:
two windings [(S1, S2)]; and
a filter coil [(Sc)], [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein
the filter coil [(Sc)] is disposed around the center leg [(MK)]; and

the windings [(S1, S2)] are disposed around the side legs [(MS1, MS2)] so that the magnetic flux produced by them flows in the same direction with the magnetic flux of the filter coil [(Sc)].

the filter coil